

ORIGINAL

December 19, 2002

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
c/o Vistrionix, Inc.
236 Massachusetts Ave., N.E
Suite 110
Washington, D.C. 20002

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

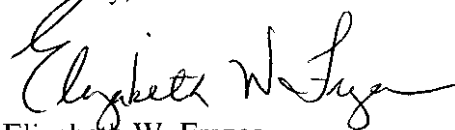
**Re: Written *Ex Parte* Presentation Concerning Cable and Consumer
Electronics Industry Agreement on "Plug & Play" Cable
Compatibility (PP Docket No. 00-67 and CS Docket No. 97-80)**

Dear Secretary Dortch:

The attached letter is an *ex parte* presentation from AOL Time Warner Inc. and Sony Corporation of America. We are sending it you for inclusion in the following dockets:

- PP Docket No. 00-67: Compatibility Between Cable Systems and Consumer Electronics Equipment
- CS Docket No. 97-80: Implementation of the Telecommunications Act of 1996; Commercial Availability of Navigation Devices

Sincerely,



Elizabeth W. Frazee
Vice President, Domestic Public Policy
AOL Time Warner Inc.

Attachment

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December 19, 2002

The Honorable Michael K. Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Room 8-B201
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Cable and Consumer Electronics Industry Agreement on "Plug & Play" Cable Compatibility

Dear Chairman Powell:

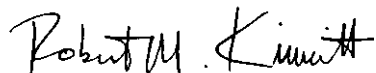
The agreement between the cable and consumer electronics industries on compatibility between digital cable systems and digital television (DTV) products is an important step forward in the DTV transition. AOL Time Warner Inc. (AOL TW) and Sony Corporation of America (SCA) are pleased to have helped facilitate this agreement through the participation of Time Warner Cable and Sony Electronics Inc.

The package of proposals represents a delicate balance. All parties involved addressed numerous complex issues in order quickly to begin delivering to consumers the benefits of digital television. The agreement, of course, does not bring closure to everything that must be addressed as part of the DTV transition. For example, in the area of content protection, more work needs to be done to ensure the secure distribution of content as we transition to DTV. Accordingly, we may offer proposals in this area or in response to evolving conditions, innovation, or the input of others.

AOL TW and SCA are committed to the secure digital distribution of content, and while this agreement represents progress toward realizing this goal, it also illustrates the urgent need to determine how best to address the "analog hole" issue.

We look forward to working with the Commission on the important issue of secure digital distribution.

Sincerely,



Robert M. Kimmitt
Executive Vice President
Global & Strategic Policy
AOL Time Warner Inc.



Nicole K. Seligman
Executive Vice President and
General Counsel
Sony Corporation of America

The Honorable Michael K. Powell

December 19, 2002

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cc: The Honorable Kathleen Q. Abemathy
The Honorable Jonathan S. Adelstein
The Honorable Michael J. Copps
The Honorable Kevin J. Martin
Susan Eid, Legal Advisor to Chairman Powell
Stacy Robinson, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Abemathy
Sarah Whitesell, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Adelstein
Alexis Johns, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Copps
Catherine Bohigian, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Martin
W. Kenneth Ferree, Chief, Media Bureau
Rick Chessen, Associate Chief, Media Bureau
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary (for inclusion in CS Docket No. 97-80 and
PP Docket No. 00-67)